

THE ALLIANCE HERALD

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1909.

"You can't saw wood with a hammer."

The advertising space of The Herald is for sale at reasonable rates, but the editorial columns are not for sale at any price.

If any one knows of any good reason why the salaries of the president of the United States, cabinet officers, members of congress, etc., should be enormously increased at this time, we will give him space in these columns to inform us and our readers.

Because a man differs with us in opinion is no reason why we should call him a skunk or a scoundrel. The Herald kept from that kind of thing under the management of the former editor and will continue to keep free from it while in charge of its present editor.

Editor Thomas of the Alliance Herald took in the Industrial contest Saturday, yet found time to call on the Journal boss. By the way, it is noticeable there is improvement in the Herald's appearance under the new regime even to what it was when genial Tom O'Keefe was on the job.—Hemingford Journal.

The editor of The Herald earnestly desires to see every man and woman who is engaged in legitimate business in Alliance prosper. We wish this not only on general principles, but also because universal individual prosperity means collective prosperity, and that in Alliance means the building up of the city and the development of the surrounding country.

One of the most eloquent speakers in either branch of the legislature is said to be the brilliant young Senator J. A. Donahoe of O'Neill. He isn't in the habit of speaking every time something is up, but when he does speak people throughout the corridors and committee rooms are attracted to the senate chamber by his eloquence, and he receives the closest attention throughout.

The Herald is turning down an advertising proposition from a New York firm that offers to sell razors for 71 cents each. We have several reasons for rejecting the ad., although they offer good pay. First, we have reliable dealers in Alliance who sell razors; but that is not all: if we published it we would expect some of our readers to send good money for the goods advertised, and we do not want them to be gulled by any such offer. There are other reasons, but these are sufficient.

Two years ago the price of spruce pulp wood was \$13.00 per double cord f.o.b. cars. Last year it had dropped to \$11.75. It is now quoted at \$8.00. Here is a decrease in two years of 40 per cent in the cost of the stuff paper is made of. If any of our republican editorial brethren are buying paper 40 per cent cheaper than they could buy it two years ago we would like to hear from them. If there are any whose paper bills are even 10 per cent less than they were two years ago will they kindly "put us wise" as to where they buy it?

Mr. Bryan is perfectly right in condemning the Carnegie pension fund for college professors. Enough harm has already been done to the higher educational institutions of the land in their subsidization by men of wealth, generally "captains of industry" who have obtained vast incomes through special governmental favors in the way of

favorable tariff schedules or by the organization of trusts and the crushing of competition. Such independence as is left to the higher educational institutions should be spared them and men like Carnegie need to be told: "Hands off!"

As it is nearing time for the annual city election, and as the question of license or no license of saloons appears to be considered the paramount issue, the columns of The Herald are open to both sides of the controversy for discussion of the matter. We want all persons who choose to accept this offer to feel entirely free to discuss the subject thoroughly, but of course shall ask that no one, on either side, get so excited as to call opponents hard names or make ultra statements that will be detrimental to the city abroad.

The Herald's Lincoln correspondent's letter this week is of unusual interest. We have noticed since the convening of the present Nebraska legislature a persistent effort by a number of republican partisan publications to severely criticize its work because a majority of the members are democrats, this criticism in some instances amounting to nothing less than downright misrepresentation. "Pity 'tis, 'tis true," but nevertheless it is true that it is difficult to get a fair report on matters of this nature, which are of public interest, from an intensely partisan press. Persons who have been reading such unfair reports of the present legislature will get some light by reading our Lincoln letter this week.

Our Lincoln Letter

Lincoln, Nebr., Feb. 23.—(Special Correspondence)—With remarkable unanimity the republican organs are seeking to make it appear that the present legislature is the most extravagant in the history of Nebraska. The opposite is true. In order to make it appear that the present democratic legislature is extravagant the republican organs hail as an appropriation every bill introduced with an appropriation clause. And with the same unanimity these republican organs forget to state what is an absolute fact—that the appropriations made by the "economical session" two years ago were utterly inadequate in many instances, and the present legislature has been compelled to allow deficiency appropriations in order to keep state institutions running. Funds that should have lasted until April 1, 1909, were exhausted two, three and four months ago.

In the very nature of things it will cost Nebraska more money to transact its business during the next two years than it did during any two previous years. Any growing business demands increased expenditures. There are more inmates in the asylums to provide for; there are more convicts in the penitentiary to provide for; there are more inmates of the reformatories; state buildings must receive more repairs as they become older. New buildings are demanded and must be provided. It is true that some large appropriations—comparatively speaking—may be provided. But as a rule the increase will consist in appropriations for experimental farms and stations, buildings imperatively demanded at the Normal school, and for a better enforcement of laws safeguarding the public health.

The finance, ways and means committee is besieged with petitions for heavy appropriations. Were it to accede to every request made it would not have half enough money to meet them. But the committee is carefully scrutinizing every bill, is cutting down here and there, and getting down to the real needs instead of acting hastily upon the desires of the promoters. The general appropriations bill will be before the legislature by the time this paper is in the hands of its readers, and then the public will know exactly how much truth there is in the charge of "undue extravagance" made by the republican organs.

The bank guarantee bill prepared by the sub-committee of the joint house and senate committees on banking, and endorsed by the full committee, has been presented to the legislature. It fulfills every promise made in the platform, meets with the approval of both depositors and bankers, and has the endorsement of Governor Shallenberger, who advised with the committee in its preparations. It strengthens the provisions for the proper inspection of the banks, and is an acknowledged improvement upon the Oklahoma law. In a short address before the joint session on Wednesday of last week Governor Shallenberger gave the bill as drawn his approval.

"Hogging patronage" is another favorite cry of the republican organs. It is interesting to note that these same organs are bewailing the fact that the democratic majority is merely undoing what a republican majority did when the conditions as they exist today were exactly reversed. Among other bills introduced, and which is the special bete noir of the g.o.p. managers, is

one providing that Railway Commissioner Cowgill shall have something to say about the management of the railway commission. As it now stands the two republican members, being a majority, can so frame up things as to control every appointment, issue every order and practically and effectually nullify any effort put forth by Mr. Cowgill. The proposed bill merely makes it possible for Mr. Cowgill to have a voice in the management of the commission. And this is all the foundation there is to the charge of "hogging the patronage" in the railway commission department.

The time limit for the introduction of bills will be up by the last of the week, and then will begin the real work of enacting laws. Then, also, will begin the work of ruthlessly slaughtering legislation asked for "by request" and calculated to confer special benefits.

The "physical valuation" bill has been introduced, and it makes provision for carrying out in every way the platform pledges. Mr. Bryan's address before the joint session dwelt especially upon this platform pledge, and the applause that greeted his remarks was evidence of the popularity of the measure.

One of the most important and far-reaching revenue bills introduced, is the one framed by Ollis of Valley, and Miller of Lancaster, and known as Senate File 268. It provides for the submission of an amendment to Sec. 1, Art. 9, of the constitution, the amendment being as follows: "All property, except as hereinafter provided, shall be taxed; all tax, whether state, local or municipal, shall be uniform upon all classes of subjects within the territorial limits of the authorities levying the tax, and shall be levied and collected under general laws." This simply means that a legislature may enact a law that will raise all the state revenue from corporations and leave each county and municipality to raise the necessary revenue as it sees fit. This course will remove many obstacles now in the way of raising revenue, and will permit the taxpayers of any specified territory to fix their own tax rate for the maintenance of their institutions, no part of it going to the support of the state government.

Among the senate files that have run the senate gauntlet and been sent to the house are the following:

Senate File 76, to establish three demonstration farms west of the ninety-ninth meridian, north of parallel forty-one. This means a great deal to the agricultural interests of the northwest.

Senate File 159, prohibiting the organization and maintenance of secret fraternities and societies in public schools.

Senate File 153, providing for a "school of citizenship" in the state university.

Senate File 11, to exhibit and regulate by license the carrying of concealed weapons.

Senate File 71, to regulate demurrage and storage charges and prevent delays in the transportation and delivery by railroads of freight other than perishable products.

Senate File 133, to provide for the physical valuation of railroads and other public service corporations.

Because Governor Shallenberger has denied himself to callers during the forenoon while the legislature is in session it is sought to be shown by the opposition that he is undemocratic. Governor Shallenberger, being a business man, has merely adopted a business rule. He wants the morning hours to himself so he can scan bills, look after the business of his department and read his mail. The rule works beneficially to all whose concern for the welfare of the state outweighs their concern in selfish or social ends.—J. A. L.

Yellow Journalism.

To give undue prominence to criminal occurrences is a mark of "yellow journalism," with which some parts of the west are badly afflicted. We could mention some metropolitan dailies published not a thousand miles from Alliance, one in particular, that reek with accounts of crimes and criminology. This not only has an unwholesome influence, but is positively disgusting and repugnant to one's sense of decency, especially is this true when news matter in which people generally are interested is crowded out by the exaggerated, and sometimes imaginary, accounts of crime.

Of course, it is necessary to mention such occurrences to some extent to meet the demands of the public for news, but there is a proper way to do it. It is one of the most delicate parts of the local newspaper publisher's work to give all the news that should be published, without falling into the slime in which too many reporters for city papers wallow.

In this connection we wish to say that an unfortunate thing happened in Alliance recently, which caused some excitement and attracted considerable attention, but of which no mention was made in The Herald. The omission, however, was not due to a desire to entirely ignore the matter, but because we were requested to say nothing about it for the sake of friends of the parties concerned.

Short Stories of the Stage

ALMOST every one who has ever been inside a theater has seen "The Old Homestead" and regards dear old Uncle Josh as a warm personal friend. The creator of the part, Denman Thompson, has become so much identified with it that to most theater goers he seems to be in very truth the tender hearted old farmer who could not get used to city ways. To think of the creator of Uncle Josh as anybody else than that self-same jovial but shrewd old fellow would be almost impossible, and Mr. Thompson in private life is a good deal the sort of man he portrays, barring the latter's ignorance of the ways of the world. His recent illness has brought him expressions of sympathy from far and wide. In Swanzy, N. H., he has an "old homestead" of his own and loves to see there the friends he has made both on and off the stage. Mr. Thompson does not have to



DENMAN THOMPSON.

"make up" much now to look like a man of Uncle Josh's years. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1833 and began his stage career in Boston as a boy. Among the famous actors of a past generation with whom he has played were Charlotte Cushman and Joseph Jefferson.

The latest Salome to hit New York is the interpretation of the role which Miss Mary Garden has given at Oscar Hammerstein's Manhattan Opera House. Miss Garden's admirers are many, and there was much eagerness among playgoers to know how she would fill this much discussed role. Some of the Salomes have been criticised because of their daring disregard of conventionalities in the matter of costume. Even Miss Garden has not been rebuked by some critics for not showing sufficient regard to proprieties in her dance in the character of the daughter of Herodias. The opera "Salome" which is featured on the program of the Manhattan this winter, has been the subject of not a little controversy. The text is by Oscar Wilde, and the score was written by Richard Strauss. When it was produced at the Metropolitan Opera House two years ago with Olive Fremstad in the questionable dance there was such a storm of criticism that the opera was withdrawn after a single performance.

There was also a controversy in the press and pulpit of Philadelphia over



MARY GARDEN AS SALOME.

the performance of the Salome dance in the Quaker City.

Miss Garden came out victor in a battle she had a short time ago with Impresario Hammerstein over his action in advancing Miss Lina Cavalieri's appearance as Thais. Miss Garden's pet role. The latter threatened to resign if Miss Cavalieri was permitted to appear. Manager Hammerstein, who was laying great calculations about the time on Miss Garden's making a hit as Salome, concluded to change his plan about Miss Cavalieri, and Miss Garden now claims a monopoly of the part in the country so far as Hammerstein productions are concerned.

Crushing.

Cholly—He called you an insignificant little noodle, did he?
Freddy—Ya-as, but I got even with him, bah Jove! I wrote him a letter, signed it "you-as respectfully" and then watched out the "respectful-ly." bah Jove!—Chicago Tribune.

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The fight which Mr. Bryan has made through the Commoner and on the stump will be continued with unceasing energy during the year 1909.

Mr. Bryan has again assumed editorial charge of THE COMMONER and will give this department his active, personal attention.

All earnest, patriotic Americans are invited to join him in A SPECIAL CAMPAIGN OF EDUCATION to be inaugurated through the Commoner and the democratic press.

The governmental reforms for which Mr. Bryan is laboring are of vital importance to the welfare of the people.

He should have the active support of those who want to see the government administered in the interest of the many instead of the few.

Join the movement for aggressive action by accepting our special clubbing offer for one year.

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